

QA-84
Bloomfield
Centreville vicinity
Private

Early 19th century

Bloomfield is a large brick house dating to the early 19th century. It is similar to the side hall, double parlor plan town houses popular in nearby Centreville and Chestertown, but originally had a one story brick hyphen and story-and-a-half wing. Two photographs taken in 1916 show the house in its original form. Soon after the photographs were taken, the wing and hyphen were raised to 2 1/2 stories and the entire building was stuccoed. Although other changes were made to the interior, much of the original Federal woodwork has remained.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Bloomfield

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Southeast corner Maryland Route 213 and White Marsh Road

CITY, TOWN

CentrevilleX VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. William V. Riggs, Jr.

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Centreville☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21617**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Queen Anne's County CourthouseLiber #: TSP 15Folio #: 190

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland 21617**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

QA-84

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Bloomfield is located on the east side of Maryland Route 213 immediately to the south of White Marsh Road, and approximately 1 1/2 miles north of Centreville. The house faces west down a long driveway to Route 213. Several small outbuildings are adjacent to the north wing of the house, and a large group of farm buildings lie to the east.

The house at Bloomfield has undergone a fairly complex development, but one which can be sorted out by architectural analysis and with the aid of two photographs taken in October 1916. These photographs were taken shortly before a major renovation, and are invaluable as a record of the early appearance of the house.

The original main section of Bloomfield remains basically intact. It consists of a two-and-one-half story brick Federal house with a side hall-double parlour plan. A story-and-a-half brick wing is joined to the north gable of the main house by a one story brick hyphen.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION

Although conclusive evidence has been covered by stucco and by later alterations, it would appear that the hyphen and north wing are early if not original. A second brick wing projects from the rear of the north wing. This was one story high with a loft, and was separated from the rest of the structure by a five foot passage or hyphen.

Shortly after the photographs were taken in 1916, the entire building was renovated. The hyphen and both wings were raised to two-and-one-half stories, and both hyphens were enlarged. The entire building was covered with stucco and numerous cosmetic changes were made to the exterior. The interior was also changed, though the basic plan and most of the original details remain intact.

The main house is two-and-one-half stories high on a full cellar, three bays wide and two rooms deep, with a pair of massive chimneys rising on the south gable. The principal facade faces west, and is composed of an arched entrance door in the north bay and nine-over-nine windows in the center and south bays on the first floor, three nine-over-nine windows on the second floor, and two six-over-six pitched-

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.2 DESCRIPTION

roof dormers on the third floor. Large cellar windows are located below each first floor opening. These originally had a single six-light sash behind a grill of horizontal diamond section wood bars. A 20th century entrance porch now covers the main door, but the original molded surround with fluted keystone remains intact, as well as the original paneled door and fan-light transom. The stucco conceals the brickwork, but the 1916 photograph shows that the facade of both the main house and the north wing are laid in Flemish bond. The original cornice is gone and has been replaced with a relatively simple box cornice.

The south gable wall is dominated by the two chimneys, which project approximately nine inches from the wall surface. They do not taper or corbel back, but rise as straight shafts all the way to the caps. Enough stucco is missing from this wall to determine that the brickwork is laid in five course bond. The fenestration pattern is symmetrical, with a single window to the east and west of the chimneys on each floor. These consist of a six-light cellar window on each side, and nine-over-nine

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.3 DESCRIPTION

windows on the first and second floors. A six-over-six window in the center of the upper gable is the only window located between the chimneys. The rakeboard is of uncertain vintage, but probably dates to the circa 1917 alterations. It consists of a plain flat board with a small crown mold.

On the rear facade, several alterations have occurred. In the 1916 photograph, there is a two story porch across the rear facade, but this was demolished in recent years. The fenestration is similar to the front facade, but varies in several respects. There are only two cellar windows, one each in the south and center bays. The first floor door is relatively simple, and lacks an arched opening and transom. On the second floor, a door to the second floor porch remains in the south bay, and the upper sash of the north window has been blocked up and eliminated. Two six-over-six dormers remain in place on the third floor.

The majority of the north gable is covered by the enlarged hyphen. The only openings in this wall are a six-light cellar window which is not original, and one original six-over-six window in the upper gable.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.4 DESCRIPTION

This window is offset to the east and was undoubtedly one of a pair, but the west window was eliminated when the hyphen was raised.

The hyphen on the north gable is 12 feet wide and is set back approximately 14 inches from the front facade of both the main house and the wing. It was originally only one story high and was set back from the rear facade of the wing approximately three feet. When it was raised to two-and-one-half stories, the rear wall was pushed back flush with the rear facade of the wing. The 1916 photograph shows the hyphen before these changes were made, with the original paneled door and a simple transom in the center of each facade.

The north wing, adjoining the hyphen, is 24 feet long and 22 feet deep. It is one-and-one-half stories high and three bays wide, with a single flush chimney at the north end of the pitched gable roof.

On the west facade, the door is located in the center bay, flanked by a pair of nine-over-nine windows. Small cellar windows are placed directly below each first floor window, and two six-over-six pitched roof dormers are located on the second floor. The door is

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.5 DESCRIPTION

paneled, with a simple transom.

The chimney is centered on the north gable, with a pair of nine-over-nine windows flanking it on the first floor, and small cellar windows directly below these openings.

The rear facade is partially covered by a rear kitchen wing, leaving a single nine-over-nine window near the center on the first floor and a six-over-six dormer to the left of center on the second floor. A pair of small windows on the second floor of the south gable originally overlooked the roof of the hyphen, but these were eliminated when the wings and hyphen were raised.

The rear kitchen wing was also brick, one story high with a loft, and apparently only two bays wide. Only the south facade and the east gable are visible in the early photographs. These show two six-over-six windows on the south facade and a single small window to the right of the chimney in the upper east gable. A box cornice with both crown mold and bed mold is also visible in the early photographs. These make it clear that this wing was separated from the north wing by a short passage, approximately five feet wide.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.6 DESCRIPTION

This was eliminated when the renovations occurred, and was incorporated into the enlarged building.

When the wings and hyphen were raised, the first floor fenestration pattern was generally repeated on the upper floors. Dormer windows were retained, and the chimneys raised. The stucco covering was no doubt added to cover the variations in the brickwork.

The interior of the main house consists of a typical Federal side hall, double parlour plan. The hall is located along the north gable wall, with the stair rising along the exterior wall to a landing at the east end of the hall. It has an open string carriage with delicate turned newels and square ballusters. The stair ends are decorated with scrolled brackets, and the area below the carriage is paneled. A four-panel door below the landing leads to an interior cellar stair.

Wide arched doorways in the west end of the hall provide passage into the front parlour on one side and down several steps to the hyphen on the other. These openings have paneled soffits and jambs, but date to the circa 1917 renovation.

The front (west) parlour is joined to the rear

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.7 DESCRIPTION

parlour by a wide doorway, while the rear parlour is connected to the hall with a normal doorway and a paneled door. The large opening between the parlours is quite remarkable. The soffits and jambs are paneled, and a pair of large, reeded Corinthian columns are set into the opening near each jamb. These are not unlike the highly decorative columns and capitals that were advertized by mail order catalogues in the early 20th century, but these would appear to be contemporary with the paneling, which is typical of the 1840's and 1850's.

Both parlours have fireplaces on the center of the south wall, and both fireplaces are set off by splendid Federal mantels. In the east parlour, there is an original built-in cupboard with paneled doors and an arched surround to the right of the fireplace. Handsome molded baseboard and chairrail encircles both rooms, and all of the original window architraves have survived. The remaining original door opening and all window openings have paneled soffits and jambs.

The second floor also utilizes the side hall plan, but with the west end of the hall partitioned

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.8 DESCRIPTION

to form an additional chamber. The interior doors between the hall and all three chambers have been modified during the circa 1917 renovation to include large transoms above the opening. The original trim has been very skillfully altered to accommodate this change, and new molded surrounds with similar profiles were added where necessary. The front and rear chambers retain most of the original trim, including two Federal mantels and a relatively simple cupboard next to the fireplace in the east parlour. Small triangular closets have been added in each room, and the door in the east chamber that led to the now-demolished porch was retrimmed in 1917. Baseboard and chairrail have remained intact, as well as the stair to the third floor.

The third floor was probably not used as living space until after the 20th century renovations. The plaster and trim are relatively new, and the floor plan has been modified, forming a single large chamber, a stair hall, and two small storage areas.

The cellar is identical in plan to the first floor, with the rooms delineated by brick partition walls that have been extensively repaired. There is

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.9 DESCRIPTION

an arched chimney base below the west chimney and a blocked fireplace in the east chimney. What appears to be an original bulkhead entrance in the north gable wall has been bricked up, and an original cellar window opening in the same wall has been opened up into a door leading through a narrow passage to a cellar below the north wing. Part of the original window frame remains in the upper portion of the door opening, and this evidence suggests that at least the hyphen, if not the wing, was an early addition rather than an original feature.

The first floor of both the hyphen and the rear wing have been completely altered, and little remains to suggest the early appearance. The north wing, however, remains basically intact on the first floor. It presently consists of a single large room with a fireplace on the north wall. A handsome Federal mantel and virtually all of the original trim remain in place. It is not clear whether this was always one large room, but the dimensions of the wing combined with the elaborate mantel suggest it probably was, and may have served as a rather formal dining room and parlour.

The upper floors of both wings and the hyphen were completely renovated in this century.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Bloomfield is a large brick house dating to the early 19th century. It is similar to the side hall, double parlor plan town houses popular in nearby Centreville and Chestertown, but originally had a one story brick hyphen and story-and-a-half wing. Two photographs taken in 1916 show the house in its original form. Soon after the photographs were taken, the wing and hyphen were raised to 2 1/2 stories and the entire building was stuccoed. Although other changes were made to the interior, much of the original Federal wood-work has remained.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Earle, Swepson. Maryland's Colonial Eastern Shore. New York, 1916.
 Emory, Frederick. Queen Anne's County, Maryland. Baltimore, 1950.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

1/30/79

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438



BLOOMFIELD
QA-84

CENTREVILLE

Queen Annes
County H.S.

CORSICA NECK

RIVER

Ship Pt

Wash Pt

Cedar Pt

Rocky Pt

Conquest

Emory Creek

White Creek

Indian Town

Windmill

Deep Pt

Cliffs Pt

Cliffs Wharf

SiLO

Wanna Cove

Deep Pt

Rock Pt

Johnsonstown

Shoemaker Neck

Booker's Wharf

Shell Pt

Water Cove

Indian Town

White Creek

Windmill

Deep Pt

Cliffs Pt

Cliffs Wharf

SiLO

Wanna Cove

Deep Pt

Rock Pt

Johnsonstown

Shoemaker Neck

Booker's Wharf

Shell Pt

Water Cove

Indian Town

White Creek

Windmill

Deep Pt

Cliffs Pt

Cliffs Wharf

SiLO

Wanna Cove

Deep Pt

Rock Pt

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Cliffs Pt

Cliffs Wharf

SiLO

Wanna Cove

Deep Pt

Rock Pt

Johnsonstown

Shoemaker Neck



10 FARM TAKEN BY HENRY H. EVANS OCT. 1916



old Farm" Taken by Thomas H. Evans. Oct. 1916



QA-84
Bloomfield

Mary McCarthy
Spring/Summer 2003
Digital color photo on file at MHT



QA-84 Bloomfield

ORV 1978

5




Q4-84 Bloomfield
ORV 1978

✓



QA-84 Bloomfield
Centerville vicinity, Md.
Orlando Ricout V, 1978 (MHT)
Rear elevation, camera facing NW





QA-84 Bloomfield
Centerville vicinity, Md.
Orlando Ridout V, 1978 (MHT)
Interior, North wall of wing



GA-84 Bloomfield, SE Parlor
Centerville Va.

ORV 1978